

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of the claims replaces all prior versions and listing of the claims in the present application.

Listing of Claims

1. (canceled)

2. (currently amended) ~~A flat secondary~~ The storage battery according to claim 21, wherein said third terminal is formed to extend in the direction differing from the extending direction of said positive and negative electrode terminals for charge and discharge.

3. (currently amended) ~~A flat secondary~~ The storage battery according to claim 2, wherein the direction in which said third terminal extends is perpendicular to said extending direction of said positive and negative electrode terminals for charge and discharge.

4. (canceled)

5. (currently amended) ~~A flat secondary~~ The storage battery according to claim 21, wherein said third terminal is connected to a control circuit.

6. (currently amended) ~~A flat secondary~~ The storage battery according to claim 21, wherein said electric-power generating element is made up of anode elements and cathode elements alternately stacked with a separator sandwiched between each anode element and each cathode element.

7. (currently amended) ~~A flat secondary~~ The storage battery according to claim 21, provided with a casing of a laminate film.

8-10. (canceled)

11. (currently amended) ~~A flat secondary~~ The storage battery according to claim 2, wherein said third terminal is connected to a control circuit.

12. (currently amended) ~~A flat secondary~~ The storage battery according to claim 3, wherein said third terminal is connected to a control circuit.

13. (currently amended) ~~A flat secondary~~ The storage battery according to claim 2, wherein said electric-power generating element is made up of anode elements and cathode elements alternately stacked with a separator sandwiched between each anode element and each cathode element.

14. (currently amended) ~~A flat secondary~~ The storage battery according to claim 3, wherein said electric-power generating element is made up of anode elements and cathode elements alternately stacked with a separator sandwiched between each anode element and each cathode element.

15. (currently amended) ~~A flat secondary~~ The storage battery according to claim 21, wherein said third terminal is attached directly to said uncoated area of said one of said positive and negative electrode collectors at a position that is opposite and remote from a position where the respective one of said positive and negative electrode terminals for charge and discharge is

attached to said uncoated area of said one of said positive and negative electrode collectors.

16. (currently amended) ~~A flat secondary~~ The storage battery according to claim 7, wherein said third terminal is attached to said one of said positive and negative electrode collectors inside said casing.

17. (currently amended) ~~A flat secondary~~ The storage battery according to claim 21, further comprising an outer member that forms a body of the battery and wherein said third terminal is attached to said one of said positive and negative electrode collectors inside said outer member.

18. (currently amended) ~~A flat secondary~~ The storage battery according to claim 21, comprising two of said third terminal that are each attached to a respective one of said positive and negative electrode collectors.

19. (currently amended) ~~A flat secondary~~ The storage battery according to claim 18, further comprising a control system, and wherein said two third terminals are connected to said control system.

20. (currently amended) [[A]] The storage battery according to comprising a plurality of said flat secondary battery of claim [[18]]21, wherein said positive and negative electrode terminals of said secondary batteries are directly connected serially to each other, and further comprising a control system to which said

third terminals of the plurality of said flat secondary batteries are connected.

21. (currently amended) A storage battery of a serial type using a plurality of flat secondary batteries, each of the flat secondary batteries ~~A flat secondary battery~~ comprising:

an electric-power generating element provided with positive and negative electrode collectors, each of said collectors having a respective uncoated area that is free of active material;

positive and negative electrode terminals for charge and discharge and that are attached to said uncoated areas of said positive and negative electrode collectors, respectively; and

a third terminal that is attached directly to said uncoated area of one of said positive and negative electrode collectors and that does not directly contact either of said positive and negative electrode terminals,

wherein said third terminal and a respective one of said positive and negative electrode terminals are attached to said uncoated area of said one of said positive and negative electrode collectors at different positions in order to avoid an influence on said third terminal of heat from the respective one of said positive and negative electrode terminals, and

wherein said third terminal has a same electric potential as said respective one of said positive and negative electrode terminals and said third terminal is attached electrically

conductively to said uncoated area of said one of said positive and negative electrode collectors.

22. (new) The storage battery of claim 20, wherein said control system is a cell-balancer circuit.